

ARTICLE VII. SIGNS

Sec. 24.1-700. Applicability.

No sign shall be erected, altered, expanded, reconstructed, replaced or relocated on any property except in conformance with the provisions of this article and all other applicable ordinances and regulations of the county. Repainting or refacing an existing sign or making minor non-structural repairs shall not require a permit.

Sec. 24.1-701. Sign classifications.

Signs, as defined in article I, shall be classified according to one or more of the following definitions:

Advertising sign. A sign which directs attention to a business, profession, product, service, activity or entertainment which is not conducted, sold or offered on the premises upon which such sign is located.

Banner. A piece of cloth, plastic or other flexible material on which words, letters, figures, colors, designs or symbols are inscribed or affixed for the purposes of advertisement, identification, display or direction and which is suspended for display, typically from buildings or poles.

Community identification sign. A permanent sign which identifies the name of a subdivision, apartment complex, condominium or other type of residential or nonresidential development or neighborhood but not containing ~~Such signs shall not contain~~ separate information pertaining to the builder, developer or financier associated with such property; however, signs identifying rental properties may specify the name of the management firm.

Construction sign. A temporary sign which identifies ~~the character of~~ facilities being actively constructed or altered, the anticipated sale, lease or rental of those facilities, or the identity of the persons or firms engaged in the promotion, financing, design, construction or alteration of such facilities.

External illumination. Illumination by floodlights, spotlights or other sources which are focused directly on the face of the sign.

Free-standing sign. A sign, supported by one or more columns, uprights or braces, in or upon the ground, and not attached to any building. Free-standing signs include, but are not limited to, pole signs, monument signs, and signs ~~A sign attached to a flat surface such as a fence or wall not a part of a building shall be considered a free-standing sign.~~

~~Ground-mounted~~ Monument sign. A type of free-standing sign, other than a pole sign, with sides parallel to or nearly parallel to each other, with the supporting structure as wide as or wider than the sign face itself, and with in which the entire supporting structure ~~bottom is~~ in contact with the ground or within twelve inches (12") ~~[300mm]~~ of the ground.

Identification sign. An on-premises sign which indicates the name, nature, logo, trademark, commodity, entertainment or service sold, offered or manufactured on the premises, and/or other pertinent information about a building, business, development or establishment on the premises.

Internal illumination. Illumination by a light source which is concealed or contained within the sign itself and which shines through a translucent surface.

Marquee or canopy sign. A sign which is painted on, attached to, or hung from a marquee or canopy which projects from and is totally or partially supported by a building.

Off-Premises directional sign. A sign which is not located on the same premises as the use to which it refers

and which is intended to provide information as to the identity and location of a use, but which does not otherwise qualify as an advertising sign.

Off-Premises directional open house sign. A temporary sign which is intended to provide information on the location of a real estate open house, and which is not located on the same premises as the dwelling unit to which it refers. Such signs shall not contain any reference to any individual or firm.

On-Premises directional sign. A sign which is intended to provide directional information for the premises on which it is located. Such sign may pertain to traffic movement, pedestrian movement, parking or loading space, or similar types of information, but shall not consist of advertising matter.

Pennants. Pieces of cloth, plastic or flexible material, generally triangular or rectangular in shape, and which typically are strung together in a series on lines which are hung from poles, between buildings or in other arrangements for the purpose of decoration or attracting attention.

Political sign. A temporary sign which pertains to an issue of public concern or to an issue or candidate in a pending election.

Portable sign. Any sign not permanently attached to a structure or permanently mounted in the ground which can be transported to other locations. Portable signs shall include, but not be limited to, signs which are trailer-mounted or otherwise designed to be relocated, or are constructed on a chassis or carriage with permanent or removable wheels.

Projecting sign. A sign which is attached perpendicularly, or nearly perpendicularly, to a building wall or roof line and which extends from such wall or roof line not more than forty-eight inches (48") [1300mm].

Realty sign. A temporary sign which advertises the sale, lease, rental or display of the lot or building upon which such sign is displayed.

Roof sign. A sign which is an integral part of the building design and is attached to, painted on, or supported by the roof of a building.

Temporary sign. A sign, banner, balloon, pennant, poster, or advertising display constructed of cloth, plastic, sheet, cardboard, wallboard, or other like materials, intended to be displayed for a limited period of time, and not permanently attached to a building or the ground.

Wall sign. A sign which is painted on or attached parallel to a wall of a building and which extends not more than eighteen inches (18") [450mm] from such wall.
(Ord. No. 01-20(R), 10/16/01)

Sec. 24.1-702. General sign regulations.

The following regulations shall apply to all signs, regardless of the zoning district in which located:

- (a) Sign area shall be measured within a continuous perimeter enclosing the entire display face of the sign, including background, framing, trim, molding and other borders, but excluding supports and uprights unless the combined width of such supports or uprights exceeds 25% of the width of the sign face being supported or unless such supports of any width are designed as an integral part of the display for the purpose of illustration or attraction (Note: the provisions concerning support measurement shall not apply to monument signs).. Where a sign consists of two identical parallel faces which are back to back and located not more than twenty-four inches (24") [600mm] from each other, only one side of such sign shall be used in computing the area. The area of signs with more than two (2) faces or with faces which are not parallel or in the same plane with each other shall be the sum of the areas of all the sign faces. The area of a cylindrical sign shall be computed by multiplying one-half (1/2) the circumference by the height of the sign. Where individual letters, characters or figures are mounted so as to use a building facade as a background, the area of such sign shall be determined by computing the sum of the area within the outer perimeter of each

individual character or figures comprising the total message, symbol or advertisement. (See Figure VII-1 in Appendix A)

- (b) The maximum allowable accumulative sign area permitted on any parcel shall be calculated with respect to the principal street frontages of a parcel to which the parcel has direct access. Unless otherwise specified, the maximum allowable accumulative area shall be based on the width of the face of the principal building parallel or nearly so to the street frontage. All permanent signs, unless specifically exempted by the terms of this article, shall be counted in the calculation of maximum accumulative sign area. In no event shall the aggregate wall sign area for a building be allowed to exceed 200 square feet.
- (c) The height of signs shall be the vertical distance measured from the average finished grade ground elevation ten feet (10') ~~3m~~ from where the sign is located to the highest point of the sign. The maximum allowable height of signs shall be as specified by the regulations established herein.
- (d) No sign, unless herein exempted, shall be erected, constructed or altered until a permit has been issued by the county. Fees for sign permits shall be in accordance with the schedule of fees adopted by the board.
- (e) Any sign pertaining to a nonconforming business, commercial or industrial use, ~~other than a home occupation as defined by this ordinance,~~ located within a residential district, shall be deemed a nonconforming structure.
- (f) No signs shall be permitted in conjunction with any business activity not possessing a valid business license issued by the county.
- (g) No sign, other than a sign approved or installed by the Virginia Department of Transportation, shall be located within or over any public right-of-way.
- (h) No sign shall be erected within the area encompassed by a sight triangle in accordance with 24.1-220(b) of this chapter.
- (i) No sign, whether permanent or temporary, shall be attached to trees, utility poles or other supporting structures, unless specifically authorized by the zoning administrator.
- (j) Except in the case of shopping centers, and corner and through lots, not more than one (1) permanent free-standing sign shall be permitted for each lot or parcel. The minimum setback of any free-standing sign, or any portion thereof, from any property line shall be ten feet (10') ~~3m~~.
- (k) Corner and through lots shall be entitled to one (1) free-standing sign for each road frontage provided, however, that this provision shall not apply along road frontages where restricted access easements are in place.
- (l) Except in the IG district, no sign, whether temporary or permanent, shall extend over or above the ridge line of any roof or the top of any parapet wall of a building.
- (m) The light from any illuminated sign shall be so shaded, shielded or directed that the light intensity or brightness shall not adversely affect surrounding premises nor adversely affect safe vision of operators of vehicles moving on public or private roads, highways, or parking areas. Light shall not shine or reflect in an offensive manner on or into residential structures or motels. No exposed reflective type bulbs or incandescent lamps shall be used on the exterior surface of any sign in such a manner that will cause offensive glare on adjacent property or create a traffic hazard.

- (n) A landscaped planting area shall be provided around the base of any free-standing identification sign. The planting area shall contain four (4) times the area of the sign, be a minimum of six feet (6') ~~[2m]~~ in width, be protected from vehicular encroachment, and be landscaped with a combination of trees, low-growing shrubs and/or groundcovers (other than grass), including sufficient quantities to earn at least 12 landscape "credits" in addition to any required for the yard in which the sign is located. ~~at least six (6) shrubs.~~ The landscape treatment shall be designed and maintained to ~~not exceed a height of three feet (3') [1m] above grade.~~ ensure that sight triangle standards are met.

Sec. 24.1-703. Permitted signs.

- (a) The following table indicates the functional class, structural class, area, height, and type of illumination of signs permitted within each of the zoning districts prescribed by this chapter. All such signs shall be in accordance with the general provisions established in section 24-702.

SECTION 24.1-703. DISTRICT SIGN REGULATIONS

Functional Class	Zoning Districts Where Permitted	Structural Class				Illumination Type		Maximum Free-standing Sign Area (sq. ft.)		Maximum Free-standing Sign Height (ft.)		Maximum Cumulative Sign Area per lot or parcel exclusive of free standing sign
		Free-standing		Marquee/ Canopy, Projecting, Wall	Roof	Internal	External	Monument	Pole	Monument	Pole	
		Monument	Pole									
Identification	<u>RC</u> <u>RR</u>	X	X	X					12	6	6	20 sq. ft.
	NB, ¹ WCI	X	X	X		X	X	<u>32</u>	24	<u>6</u>	8	1 sq. ft. per linear foot of principal bldg width
	<u>LB</u> ¹	X	X	X		X	X	<u>40</u>	32	<u>6</u>	10	1.25 sq. ft. per linear foot of principal bldg width
	<u>GB</u> ¹ <u>IL</u>	X	X	X		X	X	<u>64</u>	50	<u>10</u>	15	1.5 sq. ft. per linear foot of principal bldg width
	<u>EO</u> ¹	X		X		X	X	<u>64</u>	N/A	45 <u>10</u>	N/A	1.5 sq. ft. per linear foot of principal bldg width
	<u>IG</u>	X	X	X	X	X	X	<u>64</u>	50	<u>10</u>	20	1.5 sq. ft. per linear foot of principal bldg width
	<u>YVA</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>			<u>X</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	wall sign maximum of 5 s.f.; hanging sign maximum of <u>6</u> s.f.
Community Identification	RC, RR, R20, R13, R7	<u>X</u>					<u>X</u>	32	N/A	4	N/A	N/A
	RMF	X					X	24	N/A	6	N/A	N/A
	NB, LB, GB, EO, IL, IG, WCI	X					X	32	N/A	6	N/A	N/A
<u>X = PERMITTED</u>												
¹ See Section 24.1-706 for Shopping Center sign standards												

- b) The provisions of Section 24.1-702(a) notwithstanding, when a monument sign is designed with two identical faces arranged back-to-back or in a "V" with an interior angle of 45-degrees or less, only one sign face shall be counted toward the maximum area requirement.

Functional Class	Districts Where Permitted	Structural Class					Illumination Type			Free-Standing Signs		Maximum Cumulative Sign Area per lot or parcel exclusive of free-standing sign
		Free-standing	Marquee/Canopy	Projecting	Roof	Wall	None	Internal	External	Maximum Area ⁽²⁾	Maximum Height ⁽⁴⁾	
Identification	RC, RR									12 sq. ft. [1.1m ²]	6 ft. [2m]	20 sq. ft. [2m ²]
	NB, WCI									24 sq. ft. [2.2m ²]	8 ft. (3) [2.75m]	1 sq. ft. [1000cm ²] per linear foot of principal bldg. width.
	LB									32 sq. ft. [3m ²]	10 ft. (3) [3m]	1.25 sq. ft. [1200cm ²] per linear foot of principal bldg. width.
	GB, IL, EO ⁽³⁾									50 sq. ft. [4.5m ²]	15 ft. [4.5m]	1.5 sq. ft. [1400cm ²] per linear foot of principal bldg. width.
	IG									50 sq. ft. [4.5m ²]	20 ft. [6m]	1.5 sq. ft. [1400cm ²] per linear foot of principal bldg. width.
Development Identification	All Residential Districts Except RMF									32 sq. ft. [3m ²]	4 ft. (3) [1.25m]	N/A
	RMF									24 sq. ft. [2.2m ²]	6 ft. (3) [2m]	N/A
	All Commercial/ Industrial Districts									32 sq. ft. [3m ²]	6 ft. (3) [2m]	N/A
Off-Premises ⁽¹⁾ Directional	All Districts									8 sq. ft. [0.75m ²]	6 ft. [2m]	N/A
Realty	All Residential Districts Except RMF	Refer to §24.1-707. -- EXEMPT SIGNS										
	RMF		Refer to §24.1-707. -- EXEMPT SIGNS									
	All Commercial/ Industrial Districts											
Exempted	All Districts	Refer to §24.1-707. -- EXEMPT SIGNS										
<div><div></div> = PERMITTED</div> <div>(1) Refer to §24.1-706. for additional standards</div> <div>(2) Unless a greater area is authorized by special use permit issued by the board.</div> <div>(3) Ground-mounted monument-type signs only.</div> <div>(4) Unless a greater height is authorized by special use permit issued by the board.</div> <div>Shopping Center Signs -- Refer to §24.1-705.</div> <div>Political Signs -- All Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Districts -- Refer to §24.1-707.</div>												

(Ord. No. O98-15(R), 9/2/98)(Ord. No. O98-18, 10/7/98)(Ord. No. 01-20(R), 10/16/01)

Sec. 24.1-704. Temporary signs.

The zoning administrator, upon application, may issue permits for the following temporary signs. Such signs shall not count against the normal sign area allowances for the property on which located:

- (a) Signs not exceeding thirty-two (32) square feet ~~{3m²}~~ in area, which promote a special civic, cultural or religious event such as a fair, exposition, play, concert or meeting sponsored by a governmental, charitable or religious organization. The duration of such permit shall not exceed thirty (30) days.
- (b) Banners when used in conjunction with the opening of a new business or an establishment going out of business in any commercial or industrial district. The duration of such permit shall not exceed thirty (30) days. "Grand-Opening" temporary signage shall be permitted only within the one-year period after the actual business opening occurs.
- (c) Temporary portable signs, not exceeding thirty-two (32) square feet ~~{3m²}~~ in area or one (1) per parcel, which are intended to identify or display information pertaining to an establishment for which permanent free-standing signage is on order as evidenced by presentation of a copy of an executed order form for such permanent signage to the Zoning Administrator. Such permit shall expire and the portable sign shall be removed upon erection of the permanent sign or thirty (30) days whichever shall occur first. In addition, temporary banners or sign sleeves, neither of which exceed normal sign area allowances, may be used when permanent signage is on order, as evidenced in the manner described above or when in the opinion of the zoning administrator other temporary business circumstances, such as relocation due to fire or disaster, warrant such use and the size of the temporary banner/sleeve does not exceed normally permitted sign area allowances. Such signage may be authorized for periods greater than thirty (30) days.
- (d) Banners when used to announce the grand opening and initiation of sales or leasing of lots and/or dwelling units within a newly developing residential project having at least ten (10) lots or units. The cumulative area of all such banners erected for any single residential project shall not exceed forty (40) square feet ~~{3.75m²}~~. Banners shall not be illuminated. The duration of such permit shall not exceed thirty (30) days.
- (e) Banners when used to announce special events such as new home shows being conducted within a residential subdivision or development. The cumulative area of all such banners erected for any single event shall not exceed forty (40) square feet ~~{3.75m²}~~. Banners shall not be illuminated. Such signs shall not be erected more than fourteen (14) days prior to the event and shall be removed within seven (7) days following the closing of the event; provided, however, that no banner shall be permitted to remain in place for any event for more than thirty (30) days between the first appearance and removal of the banner.
- (f) With the approval of the Virginia Department of Transportation, the zoning administrator may authorize banners to be suspended above a public road right-of-way for a period not to exceed seven (7) days or the duration of the event being announced or promoted plus three (3) days, whichever shall be greater.
- (g) Political headquarters signs in commercial and industrial districts which are in addition to the signs otherwise permitted on the subject property and which do not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet ~~{3m²}~~ may be erected not earlier than sixty (60) days prior to the election, canvass, or primary to which such signs pertain and shall be removed within seven (7) days following the election, canvass or primary.

(Ord. No. 098-18, 10/7/98)(Ord. No. 01-20(R), 10/16/01)

Sec. 24.1-705. Special sign regulations applicable to shopping centers.

Shopping centers, as defined in section 24.1-104, shall be subject to the following sign regulations:

- (a) All signs shall comply with the general provisions specified in section 24.1-702 unless otherwise specified herein.
- (b) The following provisions shall apply to shopping center free-standing signs, notwithstanding the district in which located:
 - (1) One (1) free-standing sign shall be permitted for each street frontage.
 - (2) The maximum area of any one (1) free-standing sign shall be one hundred fifty (150) square feet .
 - (3) The maximum cumulative free-standing sign area per shopping center shall be two hundred (200) square feet ~~[19m²]~~.
- (c) Each individual tenant within a shopping center shall be permitted one (1) marquee or canopy sign provided that such sign shall not exceed a maximum area of three (3) square feet ~~[2800cm²]~~ and shall have a minimum ground clearance to the bottom of the sign of not less than eight (8) feet ~~[2.75m]~~.
- (d) In addition to the marquee or canopy sign, wall signs shall be permitted provided that the cumulative area of such signs, including the marquee sign, shall not exceed the maximum cumulative sign area allowable in the district in which located, as specified in section 24.1-703.
- (e) Individual free-standing signs for individual shopping center tenants shall not be permitted. For the purposes of this section, lawfully subdivided outparcels which have been depicted on the approved shopping center site plan shall be considered as separate parcels and may be signed as such.

Sec. 24.1-706. Off-premises directional signs.

- (a) The zoning administrator may authorize, by permit, the installation of off-premises directional signs for churches, civic organizations, governmental functions, hospital-based emergency centers and similar activities or establishments, subject to the following findings and conditions:
 - (1) The location of the use to which the sign pertains prevents adequate identification by such signs as are normally permitted.
 - (2) The function of such signs shall be limited to directional or identification purposes.
 - (3) The location of such signs shall be consistent with the uses existing or permitted on the site of such sign. A written authorization from the owner of the property on which such sign is proposed to be located or a recorded easement permitting the placement of the sign shall be submitted to the zoning administrator at the time of application for necessary permits.

- (4) Such signs shall be subject to the maximum area and height standards established in section 24.1-703 and to all other applicable provisions of this article. Not more than three (3) such signs shall be permitted for any single use. All off-premises directional signs, except those permitted under section 24.1-706(b) below, shall have a background color of green, blue or brown with white letters.
- (b) Off-premises directional open house signs may be erected in any zoning district when in accordance with the general provisions established in section 24.1-702 and subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) The function of such signs shall be limited to directional purposes, as opposed to advertisement of an individual realtor or realty firm. No specific realtor or realty firm name(s) shall appear on such signs provided, however, that the registered trademark of the National Association of Realtors and the equal housing opportunity logo shall be permitted.
 - (2) Such signs shall refer only to real estate open houses whose purpose is to sell, lease, or rent residential property.
 - (3) No such sign shall exceed three (3) square feet ~~{2800cm²}~~ in area and three feet (3') ~~{1m}~~ in height.
 - (4) Such signs shall be located only at intersections where a turning movement is indicated.
 - (5) No more than two (2) such signs shall be located at any one intersection, nor shall such signs at the same intersection point in the same direction.
 - (6) Such signs shall be displayed only when the residential unit is open for public viewing.
 - (7) Such signs shall be placed only on privately owned property and only with the express consent of the owner of said property.

Sec. 24.1-707. Exempt signs.

The following signs may be erected, altered or maintained in any zoning district when in accordance with the general provisions established in section 24.1-702, provided however, that permits shall not be required unless specifically noted.

- (a) Signs erected and maintained pursuant to and in discharge of any federal, state or county governmental function, or as may be required by law, ordinance or governmental regulation including official traffic signs and signals, warning devices and other similar signs.
- (b) Memorial signs or tablets, cornerstones or names of buildings when cut into masonry or when constructed of bronze or other noncombustible material, but not to exceed six (6) square feet ~~{0.5m²}~~ in area.
- (c) Non-illuminated construction signs, not exceeding thirty-two (32) square feet in area and six feet (6') ~~{2m}~~ in height and limited to one sign for each street frontage, when displayed on the premises to which such sign refers. No such signs shall be permitted unless a building permit has been issued or unless a site plan for the proposed development has been submitted to the county for official review. Such signs shall be removed at the completion of construction.
- (d) Non-illuminated realty signs, not exceeding six (6) square feet ~~{0.5m²}~~ in area and four feet (4') ~~{1.25m}~~ in height in all single family residential districts, and thirty-two (32) square feet and six

(6) feet in height in all multi-family, commercial and industrial zoning districts, and limited to one sign for each street frontage, and only when displayed on the premises to which such sign refers.

- (e) Non-illuminated signs identifying official state automobile inspection stations and the inspection number which is then due, provided that such signs shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet ~~{1.5m²}~~ in area and shall be limited to one sign for each street frontage. "A-frame" designs shall be considered as a single sign for the purposes of this section.
- (f) Bulletin boards for churches or other permanent places of worship, or for public buildings, when located on the same premises as the building to which they refer, and provided that such signs shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet ~~{1.1m²}~~ in area and six feet (6') ~~{2m}~~ in height. If such sign is a free-standing or illuminated sign, a permit shall be secured.
- (g) Non-illuminated political signs and posters of less than or equal to six (6) square feet ~~{0.5m²}~~ in area, provided that all such signs shall be removed within seven (7) days following the election, canvass or primary.
- (h) Non-illuminated signs and posters of less than four (4) square feet ~~{4000cm²}~~ in area advertising or providing directions to a residential, civic or community operated yard or garage sale or an estate sale or auction.
- (i) Signs attached to machinery or equipment which is necessary or customary to a business including, but not limited to, devices such as gasoline pumps, vending machines, ice machines, etc., provided that such signs refer exclusively to products or services offered on the premises.
- (j) On-premises directional signs, not exceeding three (3) square feet ~~{2800-cm²}~~ in area and three feet (3') ~~{1m}~~ in height and not containing any advertising material or discernible business logo. A permit shall be secured for any illuminated signs.
- (k) Signs displayed in the windows of establishments permitted in commercial and industrial districts provided, however, that such signs shall not occupy more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total area of the window in which they are displayed and shall not be legible ~~from any~~from any public street.
- (l) Menu boards which are either free-standing or wall signs providing information on food and beverages offered for drive-in sales on the premises, provided that such signs and any business logos thereon are not legible from any public right-of-way and do not exceed an aggregate or individual area of twenty-four (24)– thirty-two (32) square feet {2.2m²} per drive-thru lane, and provided further that only one such sign shall be permitted per lot. A permit shall be secured.
- (m) Signs or scoreboards within a ball park or other similar public or private recreational use which are not legible from a public street or adjacent properties.
- (n) Flags, emblems or insignia of the United States, the Commonwealth of Virginia, York County, religious groups, civic organizations, service clubs and similar organizations, groups, agencies, etc. One (1) corporate logo emblem flag per parcel shall be permitted; provided however, that such sign shall count toward the maximum allowable sign area for the subject parcel. Flagpoles shall conform with the height regulations of the district in which located. Placement of flags in such quantities and locations as to be for attention-getting / advertising purposes, in the opinion of the zoning administrator, shall not be considered exempt under this section.,
- (o) Non-illuminated signs warning trespassers or announcing property as posted, not to exceed four (4) square feet ~~{4000cm²}~~ per sign. Such signs may be located on trees or, with the permission of the owner, utility poles.

- (p) On-premises safety and directional signs within a business or industrial district which are not visible from a public right-of-way or abutting property lines. A permit shall be secured for any free-standing or illuminated sign.
 - (q) Special notice placards, not to exceed a total of four (4) square feet ~~[4000cm²]~~ in area for all such placards of any establishment, attached to a building or to a free-standing sign indicating credit cards which are accepted on the premises, group affiliations of which the business is a member, or clubs or groups which utilize, recommend, inspect or approve the business for use by its members. A permit shall be secured for any illuminated signs.
 - (r) Identification and directional boards, which are either free-standing or wall signs, designed as an outdoor means of providing information concerning the location of individual establishments or offices within an office, retail or industrial complex, provided that such signs are not legible from any public right-of-way and do not exceed thirty-two (32) ~~twenty-four (24)~~ square feet ~~[2.2m²]~~ and provided further that only one such sign shall be permitted ~~per~~ for each lot ~~or for each major sub-area of such complex.~~ . A permit shall be secured for any free-standing or illuminated sign.
 - (s) Identification signs for churches and schools, regardless of the district in which located, shall be permitted provided that they are of a ground mounted monument type and do not exceed forty (40) square feet [4m²] in area and six (6) feet in height. A permit shall be obtained.
- (Ord. No. 098-18, 10/7/98)

Sec. 24.1-708. Special standards for community identification signs.

- (a) Residential community or business, office or industrial park identification signs shall be erected in accordance with section 24.1-703 and the following standards:
 - (1) Such signs must be located within the subdivision, apartment complex or other residential development being identified; The sign shall be located on one (1) of the lots within said development or on property which is owned and controlled in common by the owners of individual lots and units within the development and an affidavit affirming the responsibility for maintenance of the sign shall be filed with the application for a permit.
 - (2) A permit as required by section 24.1-702 shall be secured;
 - (3) The sign shall be of masonry, wood or other material construction, but not plastic or similar material, so as to be permanent in nature;
 - ~~(4) The property owner or bona fide civic organization, including garden clubs, shall file with the building permit an affidavit affirming the responsibility for maintenance of the sign; and~~
 - (45) Any external illumination shall be by lighting fixtures placed at ground level and directed in such a manner as to prevent glare onto adjacent roadways or properties.
- ~~(b) Community identification signs pertaining to industrial parks, office and business parks or similar types of comprehensively planned commercial and industrial developments shall be erected in accordance with section 24.1-703 and the following standards:~~
 - ~~(1) A permit as required by section 24.1-702 shall be secured;~~

- ~~(2) The sign shall be constructed of masonry, wood or metal so as to be permanent in nature;~~
- ~~(3) Any external illumination shall be provided by lighting fixtures which are placed at ground level and directed in such a manner as to prevent glare onto adjacent roadways and properties; and~~
- (4) ~~The sign shall be located on one (1) of the lots within said development or on property which is owned and controlled in common by the owners of individual lots and units within the development and an affidavit affirming the responsibility for maintenance of the sign shall be filed with the application for a permit.~~

Sec. 24.1-709. Abandoned signs.

A sign, including its supporting structure or brackets, shall be removed by the owner or lessee of the premises upon which the sign is located when the business which it advertises is no longer on the premises. In the event a nonconforming sign refers to a business that has not been in operation for a period of at least two (2) years, such sign shall be considered abandoned and shall be considered to be in violation of this chapter. After reasonable efforts to provide notice to the property owner of the need to remove the violation, and failure of the property owner to do so, the zoning administrator may cause the abandoned sign to be removed at the owner's expense.

Sec. 24.1-710. Prohibited signs.

Unless specifically stated otherwise, the following signs shall not be permitted in the county:

- (a) Signs with moving, revolving or rotating parts, optical illusions of movement, mechanical movement of any description, or other apparent movement achieved by electrical, electronic, mechanical or natural means, but not including time, temperature and date signs, and traditional barber poles.
- (b) Signs with lights which flash, move, rotate, blink, flicker, or vary in either intensity or color.
- (c) Moored balloons or other floating signs that are tethered to a structure or the ground.
- (d) Pennants.
- (e) Portable signs, except those used in the specific instances authorized by permit by the terms of section 24.1-704. This provision shall not be construed to prohibit signs of reasonable size and proportion as determined by the zoning administrator, painted on or attached to automobiles, trucks, buses, trailers or other vehicles which are used in the normal course of business. It shall, however, be construed to prohibit the parking of vehicles or trailers on which signs are hung, or otherwise attached, when such parking is for display purposes intended to circumvent the provisions of this chapter.
- (f) Any sign which by reason of position, shape or color may interfere with, be confused with, or obstruct the view of any traffic sign, signal or device.
- (g) Advertising signs.

Sec. 24.1-711. Maintenance and removal of signs.

All signs shall be maintained in good condition and appearance and shall be removed from the premises when they can no longer be repaired.

Sec. 24.1-712. Standards for increases in sign area and height.

~~(a)~~ The board may authorize, by special use permit issued in accordance with all applicable procedural requirements, increases in sign area and sign height ~~in the following situations:~~

~~(1)~~ ~~When unusual topography, vegetation,~~ parcel shape, ~~or the distance from the road right-of-way would impose substantial hardship by making a sign, otherwise permitted by the terms of this chapter,~~ i ~~ineffective and unreadable from vehicles on adjoining~~ (i.e., abutting) ~~roadways; or~~

~~(2) When the nature of the individual project, size or shape of the parcel of land being developed or relationship to existing adjacent development would accommodate a sign of greater area or height.~~

~~(b)~~ — In authorizing signs in either of the above situations, the board shall limit the area, height, and location of such signs to that which, in its opinion, is reasonably in keeping with the provisions of Article VII.

(Ord. No. 098-15(R), 9/2/98)

Secs. 24.1-713 ~~□□~~, 24.1-799. Reserved.

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Directory: O:\PC\Mtgs03\1112\ZT78
Template: C:\Documents and Settings\liscump\Application
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Title: ARTICLE VII
Subject:
Author: carterm
Keywords:
Comments:
Creation Date: October 31, 2003 10:35 AM
Change Number: 4
Last Saved On: November 4, 2003 11:14 AM
Last Saved By: Generic User
Total Editing Time: 29 Minutes
Last Printed On: November 4, 2003 4:41 PM
As of Last Complete Printing
Number of Pages: 12
Number of Words: 5,301 (approx.)
Number of Characters: 30,220 (approx.)